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Attorney Docket No.

A3185-US-NP

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Rae Caldwell

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of Michael E. Norkitis et al.

Group Art Unit: 2853

Application No.: 10/719,044

Examiner:

Filed: November 20, 2003

Confirmation No.: 2335

For: DROP GENERATOR

Mail Stop: Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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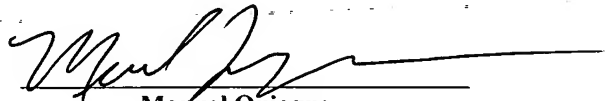
Sir:

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Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) and information listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. One legible copy of each is attached to the PTO-1449 Form, except for U.S. Patents, or published or IFW (Image File Wrapper) available U.S. applications. It is respectfully requested that the references and information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of the above application (excluding an RCE), **OR** (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits (including an RCE). *No certification or fee is required.*
- ☐ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date **AND** after the date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, Notice of Allowance, or other action that closes prosecution. Please debit Xerox Corporation Deposit Account 24-0025 in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p). *(A copy of this paper is attached.)*
- ☐ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance; **AND**
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1); **(OR)**

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- ☐ 5. Per 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(3), a concise explanation of the relevance of each of any submitted item that is NOT in the English language is either enclosed herewith, or incorporated in the application specification.
- ☐ 6. A copy of an English language version of an above-referenced counterpart foreign application search report is attached.
- ☐ 7. Copies of some or all of the subject references were cited or submitted to the Office in related parent Application No. _____, filed _____, which is relied upon under 35 U.S.C. §120. Thus, copies of those references are not attached (except for copies of cited pending applications). 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d).



Manuel Quiogue

Signature under 37 CFR 1.33 & 34

Registration No. 26,978

Telephone No. 503-685-4229

Date April 5, 2005

Customer No.: 25453

APR 07 2005

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Application Number	10/719,044
Filing Date	November 20, 2003
First Named Inventor	Michael E. Norkitis
Art Unit	2853
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	A3185-US-NP

Sheet **1** of **2**

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Foreign Patent Documents						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		EP 0792744A2	9/3/1997	Weber, et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
		EP 1321294A2	6/25/2003	Chung, et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
		WO 02/32674 A1	4/25/2002	Hollman		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 55117666	9/10/1980	Ricoh Co. Ltd.		<input type="checkbox"/>
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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APR 07 2005

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/719,044
Filing Date	November 20, 2003
First Named Inventor	Michael E. Norkitis
Art Unit	2853
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	A3185-US-NP

Sheet **2** of **2****Non Patent Literature Documents**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
		EXAMINER M. BARDET, EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE, European Search Report for Application No. EP 04027289, 2/24/2005, 3 pages, Search performed in The Hague.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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